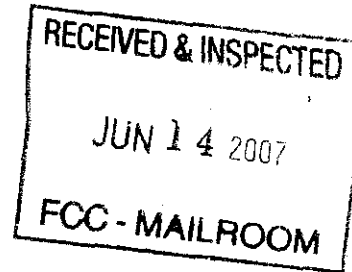




ARIZONA - NEW MEXICO
Telecommunications Association, Inc.



June 8, 2007

Chairman Martin
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth St., SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: High Cost Universal Service Support, WC Docket No. 05-337
Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45
Comments on May 1, 2007 Recommended Decision of Joint Board

Dear Chairman Martin:

The Arizona - New Mexico Telecommunications Association (ANMTA) on behalf of its 24 incumbent local exchange carrier members, writes in support of the May 1, 2007 Recommended Decision of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, and urges the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to proceed quickly to adopt its findings and recommendation.

The Joint Board's Recommended Decision acknowledges that the Universal Service Fund (Fund) "is in dire jeopardy of becoming unsustainable" (§ 4), and that virtually all of the growth in the Fund is attributable to the demands of competitive eligible telecommunications carriers (CETCs). The incumbent ETCs distributions from the Fund, on the other hand, have been flat or have even declined over the last five years.

Consequently, ANMTA supports the Joint Board's recommended interim emergency cap on the amount of high cost support that CETCs receive in each state based on the average level of CETC support distributed in that state in 2006, as set forth in the Recommended Decision.

ANMTA views this interim emergency cap as a reasonable approach until the Joint Board makes its further recommendations on high-cost universal service reform, and asks that the Commission act promptly to adopt the Recommended Decision.

Sincerely,

John Zeiler
President

Arizona - New Mexico Telecommunications Association
405-390-6453

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